

Jamestown, Tenn.
Dec. 29, 2004

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2005 JAN -4 PM 3: 53
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OFFICE OF
T.R.A. DOCKET ROOM
JAN 04 2004

TN REGULATORY AUTHORITY

Chairman Pat Miller
Director Deborah Taylor Tate
Director Sara Kyle
Director Ron Jones
Tennessee Regulatory Authority
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, Tenn

Dear Sir / madame

I am writing to voice my opinion about TRA Docket 04-00211 and 04-00166 as it relates to calls from a Tennessee Prison or jail. I want you as Chairman, and Directors of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority to know that it is the best interest of Tenn families and friends who receive calls from prisoners to not raise the telephone rates and to keep the length of calls to 30 min.

We as families are the forgotten victims of crime, who often suffer in silence. It is therefore, very important that elected or appointed Government officials protect our interests. Healthy family bonds and relationships are a must for our incarcerated loved ones, and our return will help reduce repeated incarcerations and thus make our communities safer.

We will be watching these issues very closely. I earnestly hope & pray you will support the families and not the interests of big business.

Respectfully,
Ruth Z. Owens; Judy H. Bialty
Ruth Z. Owens; James C. Taylor

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From: Greg Mitchell
To: Directors & Staff
Date: 1/4/2005 8 47 12 AM
Subject: Fwd Docket#s 04-00166 & 04-00211

2005 JAN -4 PM 3: 53

T.R.A. DOCKET ROOM

Directors, Staff

Written below is an email I received from a consumer regarding dockets 04-00166 and 04-00211

>>> "Teresa Helton" <his4ever2@frontiernet.net> 1/2/2005 9 45 36 PM >>>

Families of Tennessee prisoners are the forgotten victims of crime. Innocent of any wrong doing, they too often suffer in silence. It is therefore very important that when elected or appointed government officials hear of their concerns they should know that it is an important issue that can affect the well-being of the family.

As a part of your fulfilling the Mission of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority I urge you to strongly consider the impact your decision of docket #04-00166 and 04-00211 will have on children, families, friends, and community-based organizations that promote healthy family bonds with inmates. Please vote NO to higher costs and shorter calls from a jail or prison in Tennessee.

For too long the interest of children, families and friends of the incarcerated, have been ignored. While the cost of long distance calls for all Tennessee consumers have steadily decreased, long distance calls from jails and prisons have steadily increased by either rate increases or decreases in the length of calls.

Families of prisoners need the State's protection because research continues to show prisons and jails are mostly populated by and come from families that are among the poor and disenfranchised.

I also hope the TRA will work harder to facilitate a more competitive environment because I believe it will help provide better service for less money.

Thank You,

Teresa Helton
264 Patton Lane
Crossville TN 28571
his4ever2@frontiernet.net

CC: Darlene Standley, Eddie Roberson, Richard Collier

(December 26, 2004)

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JAN 04 2005

Re: 2004 Docket #04-00166 & 04-00211

T.B.A. DOCKET ROOM

TN REGULATORY AUTHORITY
DEBI TATE

Dear Sir or Madame

The Tennessee Regulatory Authority (Docket 04-00166 & 04-00211), if approved, could allow higher rates for calls from inmates at Tennessee jails & prisons. I urge you to support the children and families of prisoners and vote against any increases in costs & any possible decreases in the time length of calls from a state or local penal institution.

3rd, the loved ones of those incarcerated are the forgotten victims & most often we suffer in silence, innocent of any wrong doing. Not only do we pay the price of our families separation but there are many expenditures including the very important phone contact for which we bear responsibility. The proposed increases would result in drastic rate increases that we cannot afford.

It stands to reason that healthy bonds built and/or maintained during an incarceration will help reduce repeated incarcerations & make our communities safer as well. To increase the rates or shorten the length of the calls could prove devastating to these bonds we the families are trying so hard to maintain or build.

It is also apparent that the current telephone provider Global Link

lacks accountability to its customers.
We insist that improved customer service
and better billing services are required
of all telephone service providers to
prisons & jails in Tennessee.

As the wife of one of these people who
wants a fresh start after paying the
price for his mistakes I will be watching
this issue closely & I hope and pray
that you will support us, the families
of Tennessee prisoners and NOT the
interests of big business.

Sincerely,
Brenda L. Mayes
543 1st St SE
Cleveland, TN
37311

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2005-JAN-4 PM 3:53

Dec 30, 2004

Re: Docket # 04-00166 and # 04-00200 ^{T.R.A. DOCKET ROOM}

To whom it may concern.

My girlfriend is a inmate at
T.W.P. in Nashville

My name is Ronald Lee Blevins
and I am on OSI. I draw \$584.00 a
month.

I cost me \$24.69⁰⁰ for a 30
minute phone call now. And I
think it should be lower. I thought
she was in jail for robbery, but
Global Tel*Link should be. When you
listen to what the total cost of a call
is, it's don't say but \$4.69, then it cuts
off. So my first bill was \$445.00

So I think the T.R.A. should
vote No to higher ~~costs~~ costs and shorter
calls from inmate in Tenn. Prison.

Global Tel*Link made to
much money this year already. It
should be free this years.

Sincerely, Ronald Lee Blevins

Ronald Lee Blevins
274 Konnarock Rd
Troutdale, Va. 24378

Phone 276-388-2832

December 27, 2004

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RE: 2004 Docket # 04-00166
Docket #04-00211

2005 JAN -4 PM 3:56

J.R.A. DOCKET ROOM

Dear Chairman Pat Miller,

The Tennessee Regulatory Authority Docket 04-00166 and 04-00211, if approved, could allow higher rates for calls from inmates at Tennessee jails and prisons. I am urging you to support the children and families of prisoners and vote against any increases in cost and any possible decreases in the time length of calls from a state or local penal institution.

Families of Tennessee prisoners are the forgotten victims of crime. Too often they suffer in silence. It is therefore very important that elected and appointed government officials protect our interests. Our families are responsible for any and all telephone expenses among other high expenses, including taxes paid to support the incarceration of a loved one.

The proposed changes would result in drastic telephone rate increases that we cannot afford, therefore causing the lines of communication to be alot less or even non existent. We cannot afford to stop improving our family relationships through regular 30 minute telephone conversations.

Healthy family bonds during imprisonment in some cases are dependent solely on ground line communication. This is especially true for those that live hours away and are not physically or financially able to make the long journey for visitation. To shorten the length of calls would be devastating to family bonds.

Affordable local and long distance calls are especially critical to families with children. To shorten the length of talk time and increase the price of a single call could and would decrease or stop conversations from taking place between fathers/mothers with their children.

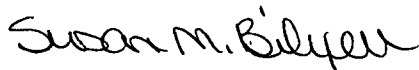
Children and families should continue to stay in contact with the parent that is missing from their home and basically their lives due to incarceration. This can also be said for maintaining a healthy marriage as best as possible.

As for me personally, my fiancée is currently incarcerated. He is 3 hours away from home. In addition to my financial responsibilities in the real world, I also have the responsibility of high long distance collect calls, high cost of vending machine food during visits, the cost of gas for monthly visitations, and for sending money for his personal items and packages that he needs. This very easily costs me \$300.00 extra per month.

As you can see, to stay in contact with a loved one that is incarcerated is very expensive. The families are already getting hit twice. Our tax dollars help fund the prisons in order to take care of all inmates, and we have the burden of the expense to stay in contact with and visit with our loved ones. Now, with these new Dockets, we will have to pay even more. For the single parents, this could be a financial strain more than it already is and almost impossible to continue with phone contact.

As a concerned citizen, I urge you to strongly consider the impact your decision on the above dockets will have on children, families, friends, and community-based organizations that promote healthy family bonds with inmates. Please vote **NO** to higher costs and shorter calls from a jail or prison in Tennessee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan M. Bilyeu".

Susan M. Bilyeu
1004 Perry Rd.,
Chapmansboro, Tn. 37035